critical digest

139 East 47 St. NY 17 NY
EL 5-6894 T. M. Kraus

Nov 7, 1960 Vol XII No 33 The Weekly NYC Theatre Newsletter Digest Service- 11th year- Published 52 weeks a year $25 per year

This Week in NYC

The sprouting new Off Broadway trend of one act plays presented in Greenwich Village coffee houses set back by Actors' Equity demand that their members cannot perform in such locations unless under an approved Off Broadway Equity contract. This includes a minimum salary of $45 per week, posting of two weeks bond and approved working conditions. As many of the actors were working for no salary, or at best what could be collected directly from the audiences, most of the ten productions were forced to close.

Plays

Broadway returned to regular 8 30 and 8 40 Wed curtain quietly. New Haven RR special 10 50 train has been dropped... The Tenth Man will not give an Election Night performance, but will join Fiorello and West Side Story in giving Election Day matinees... The 49th Cousin reports $200,000 advance sale ... The Hostage moves Nov 14 to Barrymore... Donnybrook musical version of "The Quiet Man" film, with music and lyrics by Johnny Burke and book by Robert McEnroe to be presented by Fred Hebert, directed and choreographed by Jack Cole, due Mar 17... The Ballad of the Sad Cafe adaptation of Carson McCuller's novel by Edward Albee to be presented next fall by Lewis Allen-Ben Edwards - Harry Rigby.

Players

Sidney Blackmer joins Take Me Along this week, replacing Walter Pidgeon... Lucille Patton and Leslie Barrett joined Rhinoceros ... Helen-Jean Arthur, Carolyn Olsen, Judy Carroll signed for Send Me No Flowers... Elizabeth Kerr to portray Tom Poston's mother in The Conquering Hero. .. Popular Broadway physician Dr Leo Michel, 85, died at Flushing Manor, NY, Nursing Home after long illness.

Theatre Ad Notes

Phoenix Theatre, which has stuck to 7 30 PM Wed curtain time, advertises "it believes that there are many people who want an early curtain and should be catered to. She Stoops to Conquer will begin promptly on Wed at 7 30 PM and end by 10 05. Commuters (and others) may reserve seats."

Award Dept

Julie Harris awarded 1960 Charlotte Cushman Club, Philadelphia Award for " distinguished contribution to the vitality of the American Theatre.

NYC Calendar

Hedda Gabler- 4th St 11/9. David Ross presents and directs new translation of Ibsen drama by Michael Meyer with Mai Zetterling, Patricia Cutts, Mark Lenard.

On the Way to Capetown-Masters Institute (103rd & Riverside Drive) 11/9. Studio Three workshop production of new play by Joel Wyman, adapted from novel of Dan Jacobson, directed by Cyril Simon. For three free performances only.

Period of Adjustment- Hayes 11/10. Cheryl Crawford presents new comedy by Tennessee Williams directed by George Roy Hill with James Daly, Barbara Baxley, Robert Webber, Rosemary Murphy.

Lincoln Center

Gen Maxwell D Taylor, retired chief of staff, elected president of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts effective in Jan.

Theatre Film Notes

Kim Novak won lead in Celebration, film version of A Loss of Roses to be made by 20th Century Fox... Shirley MacLaine to star in Two for the Seesaw and The Children's Hour in 1961 and Roman Candle and Irma La Douce in 1962, all for United Artists-Mirisch Bros... The Connection being filmed in NY with its original Living Theatre cast by Shirley Clarke-Lewis Allen.

Theatre Book Notes

Period of Adjustment to be published by New Directions... "Your Career in the Theatre" by Bruce Savan to be published in Jan by Doubleday... "Broadway's Best 1960" edited by John Chapman to be published in Jan by Doubleday to include digests of--Andersonville Trial, Fiorello, Miracle Worker, Toys in Attic, Five Finger Exercise, Tenth Man.

Theatre Record Notes

Greenwich Village USA with current Off Broadway cast to be recorded by 20th Century Fox Records... Tenderloin original cast album issued four days after opening by Capitol... Earl Wrightson and Lois Hunt to record Sigmund Romberg album for Columbia.

Drama Desk

NY Times entertainment coverage to include night club news and reviews.

Off Broadway

Behind the Wall closed after 8 performances... Maggie Aldrich replaced Dorothy Whitney, The Balcony, who left to make film debut... Molly McCarthy replaced Loretta Leversee, Deep Are the Roots.

Brecht's In the Jungle of Cities will have US debut Dec 16 at Living Theatre when it is presented in repertory with The Connection and the twin-bill of The Marrying Maiden and Women of Trachis. Written in 1923 it is translated by Bernhard Neilhaus and will be staged by Judith Malina... Othello presented by Helen Hayes Equity Group, Jack Manning director with Dina Merrill and Kenneth Whitlock will be presented Suns at 145 Bleecker St, and Nov 17 at Brooklyn Academy of Music... Three one act plays- The Man with the Flower in His Mouth and The Vise, both by Pierandello and Paris Impromptu by Giraudoux presented for free Mon eve performances at Actors Playhouse. Bill Haines director. Reservations - OR 5-1036... My Hearts in the Highlands presented Nov 8-12 by Equity Library Theatre, Paths of Glory Nov 22-27.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn revival postponed from Nov 28 to Jan at Barbizon Plaza due to fund raising problems... Medium Rare, Chicago cabaret revue at Happy Medium will be presented in NY Feb 6... La Celestina updated version of 1499 Spanish novel adapted by George Christopoulos to be presented in Jan at Provincetown by Antan Karras, who will also direct.

Theatre TV Notes

WNTA Play of the Week will present The Iceman Cometh in two two hour segments the weeks of Nov 14 and 21 at 10 30 PM nightly with Jason Robards, Jr, Myron McCormick, James Broderick... Cyril Ritchard, Margolo Gilmore and Sondra Lee to repeat original roles in NBC Peter Pan Dec 8 at 7 30 PM.

Yiddish Theatre

Mother's Sabbath Days new Yiddish comedy-drama by David Licht adapted from Chaim Grade's novel to be staged by Licht at Folksbiene Playhouse, 175 E. Bway Nov 18 with performances week-ends only.

((Late News & Reviews- Supplement)

DIGESTS OF CURRENT NYC THEATRE REVIEWS

Invitation to a March- Musix Box 10/29. 2 pros - News, Journal American- and 5 cons- filed on Arthur Laurents' new play, a modern version of "The Sleeping Beauty" tale, staged by author, presented by Theatre Guild with Celeste Holm, Madeleine Sherwood, Eileen Heckart, Jane Fonda, James MacArthur, Richard Derr. Two affirmative reviewers praised witty writing, excellent acting and direction, while dissenting majority did approve both acting and direction but thought play was too often talky and pretentious. Rave notice from Chapman, News, cheered play, players, direction for a most delightful high style comedy, literate, graceful, imaginitive and sharp witted. McClain, Journal American, recommended play for Holm's performance and for all those fed up with plays of trauma, squalor, delinquincy. Cast generally first rate directed with a pleasant lack of pretention, employing effectively Restoration gimmick of actors talking directly to the audience, McClain applauded. Negative voters thought method of talking to audience more modern and generally disapproved of specific use of technique. Taubman, Times, admitted production was fashioned into a crisp, wise-cracking Broadway style comedy with the female cast members more persuasive than the male, but he flet that underneath the novelty of the author's theatrical devices he has not created freshly perceived characters, nor does his fantasy take wing with the originality he imagined. Kerr, Herald Tribune, thought only Heckart's role was written and played vividly, while the others not quite so airborne but more like a carefully constructed, nicely directed puppet show in which the purpose of the puppets was to attack puppetry. Coleman, Mirror, rated it as an almost, but not quite play, which was unfortunately only intermittently successful in the use of the unusual technique and in the very writing itself. Watts, Post, approved of the excellent performances in a play that just does not work out, author used method of talking to audience as an evasion. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, blamed author for providing more talk than drama, with the players getting credit for whatever show is worth, which isn't much.

She Stoops to Conquer- Phoenix 11/1 5 pro- Times, News, Post, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun- and 1 con- Herald Tribune- filed on first production of season by Phoenix Repertory Company directed by Stuart Vaughan featuring Gerry Jedd, Donald Madden, Albert Quinton, Juliett Randall, Ted van Griethuysen. Pro side shared plaudits for lively revival among all players and especially the director. Sole negative voter Kerr, Herald Tribune admitted the really puzzling thing is that it is difficult to see how production can be any better, but it must; as it stands it lacks personality, an illuminating affection of style. While Taubman, Times, enjoyed broad comedy tailored to contemporary tastes directed and played with a largely farcial approach, kept full gallop during the evening. Times man did point out that sometimes it settles for mugging when true humorous invention would be more satisfying. Chapman, News, okayed the not-too-stylish performance with its nice balance between extravagance and common sense. Coleman, Mirror, recommended production with excellent young company all doing just right, with minor exception of Jedd playing a bit too coy. Watts, Post, liked the warm-hearted production of a most genial comedy, colorful and lively, tastefully staged. McClain, Journal American, believesPhoenix has it made with a skillful acting company and staff, all who should mature and improve in harness. Aston, WTS, cheered all concerned for high-grade artistry, imagination and taste in an evening of laughs.

((Late Reviews on Supplement))

OFF BROADWAY WEEK

Kukla, Burr and Ollie- Kuklapolitan Theatre, Hotel Astor 10/31. 6 pros-unanimous-with no Mirror review filed yet- on puppet show created by TV foavirte Burr Tillstrom assisted by Claiborne Cary, presented by Cheryl Crawford-Joel Schenker. Program consisted of skits and songs with Kukla, Oliver J Dragon, Mme Olphelia Ooglepuss and other members of the "company", plus presentation of original opera "St George and the Dragon". Several critics had slight reservations on choice of material, but all complimented talent, technique, ingenuity and wit of Tillstrom Calta, Times, felt first part was slow in getting started, while second he rated wonderful make-believe, all of it with satire that is generous, refined and tolerant. Morganstern, Herald Tribune, does not believe that Oliver J Dragon is a puppet, but is instead a real dragon with a tight mask. Though at times it seemed to be reaching for material, Herald Tribune appraiser added music, puppets and Cary's smile toward a pleasant evening for adults and perfectly wonderful entertainment for children. Watt, News, found production a fascinating glimpse into the mind of one man-disarming, lively witty and also precious and corny. Though News man mildly recommended it he reminded that it is only two hours of entertainment at top Broadway prices. Herridge, Post, enjoyed evening though she noted several moments were tedious and precious. O'Connor, Journal American, approved of delightful informal show for adults and children. Saffron, World Telegram & Sun, raved over end product of high art that belies art, a wit and technical virtusoity that infuses cloth and cardboard with pathos and frality of humanity. Two numbers presented by Tillstroms hands, sans puppets, were highly compliment by most. Performances are held nightly Wed to Sun, with special Sat and Sun 3 PM childrens matinees.

Behind the Wall- Jan Hus- 10/31- 11/6.5 con-Times, Herald Tribune, Post, Journal American, World Telegram & Sun- filed on new play by Kenneth Greene on children in Warsaw's ghetto, directed by Amnon Kabatchnik, presented by Kabatchnik-Robert Jordan with Bennye Gatteys, Charles Saari, Alan Scharf, Claude Gersene. Reviewers generally approved of cast of one teen-ager and four youngsters though they feared play by author was more talk than drama. Two noted that interest was injured by killing off the most interesting character in the play at midpoint, while two picked Gersene as the best of the children. Taubman, Times, feared author in his first attempt did not have experience or skill to surmount the problem he has set for himself, play did not make most of its dramatic opportunities. Crist, Herald Tribune, tabbed script mechanical with nothing new to say, a cold and calculated artifice in what should have been one of the most heart-rendering dramas of the season. Watts, Post, thought that in this case telling of one child's story might have been more effective than three. McClain, Journal American, agreed with Watts in picking Gersene as best actor though play itself tends to be static for long intervals. Aston, WTS, suggested author needed to learn how to breath more deeply into his typewriter.

Dead End- 41st St 10/30- 11/6. Equity Library Theatre production which was banned from ELT Lenox Hill Playhouse for not being up to ELT standards presented a one week free workshop production. Aston, World Telegram& Sun, thought actors showed imagination in their work, but the production lacked discipline, shading, pacing and focus. Noise and ferocity crowded out author's fine brooding. Reviewer suggested the rebels now return to dear ELT and back down under mature restraints.

GREEN ROOM DEPARTMENT

PRO NUDGERS...Kerr, Herald Tribune, answered David Merrick's charges that his wife "nudges" him. She does, all the time, because she likes him, that crazy girl. Reviewer also denied that he and wife ever agreed on merits of plays, detailing recent examples. Herald Tribune aisle-sitter disagrees with all the charges of the producer expressed in an interview with Graham, Mirror, he is forced to defend that nice girl from the scurrilous charge that she thinks like a critic... Winchell, Mirror, finds it hard to believe that Merrick is feuding with his favorite critic.

EARLY CURTAIN FLOP...Reversion to 8 30 PM Wed curtain is a victory for the city theatre-goer over his country cousins, states Herald Tribune editorial. The only thing definite is that no matter what the curtain time some one is certain to come in after the show has started, and probably in your row.

COLUMN TIPS...Two large Off Broadway theatres will be constructed by Irving Maidman, reports Farrell, World Telegram & Sun...St John Terrell sold his Rolls Royce as a down payment on a new Off Broadway theatre to be constructed on the site of a former church on E 11th St, hears Lyons, Post ... Shubert Alley rumor is that Richard Burton may leave Camelot before it arrives in NY, whispers Kilgallen, Journal American.

BEHAN'S WAGON...Fall of The Hostage author Brendan Behan off the wagon was one of the best covered splashes since Gertrude Ederle jumped into the English Channel--for greater love hath no man than this to lay down his liver for the good of his royalties, summed Slocum, Mirror... Winchell, Mirror, is sure it couldn't have been for publicity because the business at the show is fine...But Kilgallen, Journal American, questioned if indeed the Irish author was ever on the wagon... Playwright makes nightly curtain speech thanking audience for helping cure his hangover, reports Lyons, Post.

CRITICAL THOUGHTS...This is the year of the prostitute, surmises Crosby, Herald Tribune. Never in his memory have the light ladies run so amuck in the theatre, with David Merrick making more money out of the business than Polly Adler...Sunrise at Campobello film is given a new dimension and is infinitely superior to the stage version in the climatic political convention scene, rates Atkinson, Times ...Charging NY critics with being late for openings is unfair to the local reviewers, points out Watts, Post, who feels that punctuality may be their one virtue.

QUOTE ADS...Face of a Hero quote ad which lists McClain, Journal American as saying "Jack Lemmon is superlative" corrected by reviewer who reminds that he applied term to actor's Hollywood film roles not his current stage effort. There may come a day of reckoning on theatre quote ads, critic warns, and it will be a sorry one for the press agents.

HITS REVISITED...Take Me Along with William Bendix replacing Jackie Gleason recommended by Aston, World Telegram & Sun. Bendix covered up any shyness like a real pro and showed every sign of feeling perfectly ducky. His dancing was nobly slick and clowny and promises to give the customers many laughs.

THEATRE RECORD COMMENTS...Irma La Douce original cast album (Columbia) approved by Baer, Journal American, and Gros, Variety. Former noted music doesn't exactly stun by virtue of originality, but show has its charms, while latter marked it a complete delight, a nifty seller.

PROS & CONS BY TMK

Invitation to a March is a dull attempt to combine the best-selling attributes of an Oscar Wilde comedy, a Jean Anouilh fantasy into a social drama mildly panning modern conformity, all of this imposed on a "Sleeping Beauty" format. It simply does not work because it has no individual style of its own, and because the players are never quite sure if they are talking directly to the audience, the other members of the cast, the author or the ocean (the audience is sitting in what should be the ocean.)

* *

The 49th Cousin is an unfunny example of a lengthy vaudeville sketch based on an extra slim situation that puts a fine set of actors in an awful script. It also badly miscasts and wastes the delightful clown talents of Menasha Skulnik. Stereotype characters with cliche speeches added to a complete lack of dramatic action adds up to a boring evening of theatre. The understatement of the century is certainly the star's recent interview in which he is quoted as saying " Chekhov it isn't?"

* *

Kukla, Burr and Ollie is an inventive, witty evening of theatre. Burr Tillstrom's complete set of living characters, fully developed and as nice a group of people as you might ever met, provide a stimulating session with gentle- and not-so-gentle comments on most of the current issues of the day. The skill of puppetry exhibited, especially in the two bare hand numbers, demonstrates the genius of his artistry.

* *

Award picking groups could easily solve all of their problems this season by just sending all the awards to the Phoenix Theatre. Add this season's accomplishments so far, and we are in only the second month of the term, and you have the idea. The three prong high school student program, the development of the first Ford Fund backed repertory company, the special visits of Canadian and French troupes. But even more important is the sticking to the 7 30 PM Wed curtain which they promised their subscribers.

* *

Action by Actors' Equity against the managements of the Greenwich Village coffee houses offering one act plays with actors working for free is long overdue. Though there may or may not be a place for such so-called "experimental" theatre, it cannot be a part of a commercial venture where everyone involved except the actor is getting paid. Off Broadway theatres provide more than enough showcases for actors who want to be seen, and paid.

* *

Equal space to answer critics charges for all, actors and playwrights included, has been granted under a new Yugoslavian press law that demands study by all theatre fans. The only rule is that the original notice must be "injurious" and applies not only to press, but magazines, radio and TV. The free space idea if applied in NY would probably result in daily papers the size of telephone books.

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Nov 7,1960 THEATRE FACT CHART--CRITICAL DIGEST-139 E 47,NYC-EL 5-6894

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Theatre Fact Chart presents up-to-minute data on current business and critical reaction on current Broadway and Off Broadway shows. Top week-end prices and opening dates are listed.

SUBSCRIBERS ONLY may write or phone for any other specific critical data and/or for specific details of late NYC reviews and Out of Town tryout reviews.

"C"-Critical- figures refer to percentage of PRO votes filed by 7 NYC daily newspaper reviewers. PRO means show was recommended for entertaining and/or stimulating evening, not if critic predicted if show would be a commercial hit (earn back its investment.)

"B"- Business- figures refer to percentage of gross ticket sales last week and indicates current availability of tickets. Figures that follow, all in thousands of dollars, are gross capacity (CAP) and corrected Variety grosses of past week and preceding weeks. Thus- 100% B- Cap $80--$80 $76 $74- means show was a sellout last week at $80,000, the previous week's gross was $76,000, etc

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BECKET St James $7.50 10/5/60	246 W 44 LA 4-4664	90% C- 4 raves- 1 Con- Times 100% B- Cap $59--$58 $57 $59 $59
BEST MAN Morosco $7.50 3/31/60	235 W 45 CI 6-6230	100% C- 7 pro- 3 raves 100% B- Cap $40--$40 $40 $41 $38 $34
BYE BYE BIRDIE 54th St $8.60 4/14/60	152 W 54 JU 6-3787	90% C- 1 Con- Times- rest all raves 95% B - Cap $60--$58 $58 Beck
FACE OF HERO O Neill $7/50 10/20/60	230 W 49 CI 5-9442	10% C- 1 Pro- Post 75% B- Cap $45--$ 31
FIORELLO Broadhurst $9.40 11/23/59	235 W 44 CI 6-6699	100% C- 5 raves-Post, WTS milder book 100% B- Cap $58--$58 $58 $58 $58 $57
49th COUSIN Ambass $6.90 10/27/60	215 W 49 CO 5-1855	30% C- 2 Pro- Times, News Cap $32
GYPSY Imperial $9.40 5/21/59	249 W 45 CO 5-2412	100% C- 7 pro- J Am milder on book 85% B- Cap $64--$51 $59 $64 $50 $43
HOSTAGE Cort $7.50 9/20/60	138 W 48 CI 5-4289	60% C- 4 Pro- H Trib, Post, Mir, WTS 70% B - Cap $40--$28 $21 $22 $22 $20
INVITATION TO MARCH M Box $6.90 10/29/60	239 W 45 CI 5-9850	30% C- 2 Pro- News, J Am Cap $40
IRMA LA DOUCE Plymouth $8.60 9/28/60	236 W 45 CI 6-9156	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib 100% B- Cap $49--$49 $49 $48 $48
LA PLUME Royale $8.05 11/11/58	242 W 45 CI 5-5760	100% C- 6 raves- Times milder 85% B - Cap $45--$37 $40 $42 $35 $30
MIKE & ELAINE Golden $6.90 10/8/60	246 W 45 CI 6-6740	100% C- 7 pro for 2 person revue 100% B- Cap $30--$30 $31 $30
MIRACLE WORKER Playhouse $7.50 10/19/59	137 W 48 CI 5-6060	100% C- 5 raves-Times, WTS milder 95% B - Cap $36--$34 $36 $36 $33 $28
MUSIC MAN Broadway $8.05 12/19/57	1681 Bway CI 7-7992	100% C- 6 raves- H Trib milder 50% B - Cap $73--$48-- $38 Moved Maj.
MY FAIR LADY Hellinger $8.05 3/15/56	235 W 51 PL 7-7064	100% C- 7 raves Play-News OK P. Charls 70% B - Cap $70--$50 $56 $58 $51 $48
SOUND OF MUSIC Lunt $9.90 11/16/59	205 W 46 JU 6-5555	90% C- 1 Con- H Trib- 3 raves 100% B- Cap $75--$76 $76 $76 $76 $76
TAKE ME ALONG Shubert $9.40 10/22/59	225 W 44 CI 6-5910	90% C- 1 Con- Mir-2 raves-News, WTS 65% B- Cap $64--$40 $58 $52 $52 $45
TASTE OF HONEY Lyceum $6.90 10/4/60	149 W 45 JU 6-9854	80% C- 2 Con- News, Mir 65% B - Cap $32--$24 $23 $21 $17
TENDERLOIN 46th St $8.60 10/17/60	226 W 46 CI 6-4271	30% C- 2 Pro- News, WTS (raves) 95% B- Cap $65--$62 $61
TENTH MAN Booth $7.50 11/5/59	222 W 45 CI 6-5969	100% C- 7 pro-2 raves-Times, News 65% B- Cap $32--$20 $22 $24 $22 $17
THURBER CARNIVAL ANTA $7.50 2/26/60	245 W 52 CI 6-6270	100% C- 6 raves- Mir milder 45% B - Cap $49--$21 $22 $28 $27 $20
TOYS IN ATTIC Hudson $7.50 2/25/60	141 W 44 JU 6-2237	100% C- 5 raves-Times, J Am milder 65% B- Cap$40--$24 $25 $27 $25 $17
UNSINKABLE M BROWN W Garden $9.40 11/3/60	1674 Bway CI 5-4878	See Supplement for Digests Cap $68
THE WALL Rose $7.50 10/11/60	208 W 41 WI 7-5510	40% C - 3 pro- raves-Times, News, WTS 50% B - Cap $46--$22 $25 $30
WEST SIDE STORY Alvin $8.05 4/27/60	250 W 52 CI 5-5226	100% C- 7 pro on return of musical 75% B- Cap $55-- $33 $39

"CD" Pros & Cons

PROS: Becket, Best Man, Bye Bye Birdie, Gyspy, Hostage, La Plume. Miracle Worker Music Man, My Fair Lady, Take Me Along, Taste of Honey, Thurber Carnival Toys in Attic, TheWall West Side Story------Balcony, Deep Are Roots, Drums Under Window, Greenwich Village USA, Krapps Last Tape, Kula Burr, Ollie Leave it to Jane, Little Mary Sunshine, 3 Penny Opera

CONS: Face of Hero, 49th Cousin, Invitation to March, Tenderloin, Sound Music, 10th Man Here Comes Clowns, La Ronde

OFF BROADWAY

BALCONY Circle $4.50 3/3/60	159 Bleecker GR 3-4950	3 Pro- Times, Post, WTS 3 Con- H Trib, News, J Am
DANCE OF DEATH Key $3.60 9/13/60	4 St Marks GR 5-9748	2 Pro- Times, WTS 3 Con- H Trib, Post, J Am
DEEP ARE ROOTS St Marks $3.60 10/3/60	133-2nd Av OR 4-3530	5 Pro- 1 Con- Post- No Mirror
DRUMS UNDER WINDOW C. Lane $4.60 10/13/60	38 Comm CH 2-4289	5 Pro- 2 Con- H Trib, News
GREENWICH VILLAGE 1 Sher Sq $4.50 9/28/60	1 Sher Sq UN 9-1334	5 Pro- 1 Con- Times- No Mirror
FANTASTICKS Sullivan $4.60 5/3/60	181 Sullivan OR 4-3838	5 Pro- 1 Con- H Trib- No Mirror
HERE COMES CLOWNS Actors Play $4.60 9/19/60	100-7th Av S OR 5-1036	4 Pro- Times, News, Post, J Am 3 Con- H Trib, Mir, WTS
KRAPPS LAST TAPE Cricket $4.50 1/14/60	162-2nd Av OR 4-3960	6 Pro- No Mirror
KUKLA BURR OLLIE Astor $4.80 10/31/60	44 & Bway LT 1-2715	6 Pro- No Miror
LA RONDE T Marquee $3.90 5/9/60	110 E 59 PL 3-2575	1 Pro- WTS (rave) 5 Con- All mild-No Mirror
LEAVE IT TO JANE Sher Sq $5 5/25/59	99-7th Av S CH 2-9244	5 Pro- 2 Con- H Trib, News
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE Orpheum $4.95 11/18/59	126-2nd Av OR 4-8140	6 Pro- 4 raves-No Mirror
MY SON & I Anderson $4.60 10/22/60	66-2nd Av OR 4-1076	4 Pro- Times, Trib, News, Post English- Yiddish musical
SHEPERDS ON SHELF Blackfriars $3 10/14/60	320 W 57 CI 7-0236	3 Pro- Mirror, J Am, WTS
SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER Phoenix $4.60 11/1/60	181-2nd Av AL 4-0525	5 Pro- No Mirror 1 Con- H Trib
SHOEMAKER & PEDDLER East 74 $4.60 10/14/60	334 E 74 LE 5-5557	2 Pro- H Trib, WTS 3 Con- Times, Post, J Am
3 PENNY OPERA De Lys $4.95 9/20/54	121 Chris WA 4-8782	3 Pro- T mes, H Trib, Post
LIVING REPERTORY Living $3.45	530-6th Av CH 2-4569	Connection-5 Con-1 Pro-Post 7/5/59 Theatre Chance 1 Pro-Post 6/22/60

NYC THEATRE CALENDAR

Rape of the Belt- Beck-11/5
The Mousetrap- Maidman 11/5
Man & Superman- Gate 11/6
Hedda Gabler- 4th St 11/9
Period of Adjustment-Hayes 11/10
Rosemary & Alligator-York 11/14
Under Yum Yum Tree- Miller 11/16
Advise & Consent- Cort 11/17
Whisper to Me- Players- 11/21
Marcus in the High Grass-G Mews 11/21
Dream Play- T East 11/22
All the Way Home- Belasco 11/30
Love & Libel- 11/30

Conquering Hero-ANTA 1/5
Rhinoceros- 1/5
Show Girl- 1/14
Love & Death- 1/15

I'm With You- 2/1
MediumRare- 2/6
Faust- C Center 2/7
Once Was Russian -2/8
13 Daughters- 2/9
Comedie Francaise-C Center 2/21
The Caretaker- Miller 2/?
Red Roses for Me- G Mews

Little Moon of Alban-Longacre 12/1
Camelot- Majestic 12/3
Send Me No Flowers-Atkinson 12/5
Borak- Martinque- 12/13
Critic's Choice-Barrym 12/14
Wildcat- Alvin- 12/15
Jungle of Cities-Living Theatre 12/16
Donogoo- G Mews- 12/19
What a Killing-York-12/22
Do Re Me- St James- 12/26
The Tiger Rag- T Marquee 12/?

Donnybrook- 3/17

TV THEATRE PROGRAMS

Nov 16- CBS- Heaven Can Wait on Show of Month
Nov 20- NBC- Macbeth on Hall of Fame with Judith Anderson
Dec 8- NBC- Peter Pan with Mary Martin

CD

This weekly NYC THEATRE NEWSLETTER DIGEST SERVICE--now in its 11th year of service to theatre teachers, students, professionals --college drama departments, community theatres, college and public libraries--presents each week of the year a concise 15 minute summary of all theatre news, comments, reviews, etc- published in the past week's 2100 pages of 7 NYC daily newspapers. Plus weekly "Outer Broadway Theatre Letter" supplement giving exclusive editorial coverage of outstanding College, Community, Summer theatre productions coast to coast. Also free critical research on specific data and/or specific details of late NYC theatre reviews and Out of Town tryouts via mail, phone. $25 per year for full service. Back volumes available from Oct $1956- $25 per year. "CD" is the perfect theatre gift.

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OUTER BROADWAY
THEATRE LETTER

College------Community---- Summer

Nov 7,1960 Vol XII No 33 The Weekly Supplement of "Critical Digest" 139 E 47, NYC El 5- 6894-$25 per year for full "CD"Service

College Theatre

Cathleen Nesbitt and Frances Sternhagen join with Association of Producing Artists company for The Importance of Being Earnest Nov 10 in fall repertory program at McCarter Theatre, Princeton, NJ, University. Last week ARA presented a triple bill of Moliere's Scapin, Yeats' The Cat and the Moon and Box and Cox.

One Foot in America new musical comedy by Earl Robinson and Lewis Allen tried out at Northwestern University, Chicago Oct 30-Nov 6 ... Second production at Hofstra, NY, College to be The Contrast Dec 2-4 ...Agamemon outdoor production of Queens Revels, Columbia University, finished week with performance in rain to 300...Joan of Arc version by Max Mell to be translated from Austrian by Raiberto Comini, Southern Methodist Univ, and presented this season at Texas Christian University, Fort Worth.

William Alton, former head of Bennington, Vt, College drama department named director of University of Chicago University Theatre.

Community Theatre

North Shore Community Arts Center, Roslyn, NY set up Theatre Studio Unit directed by Walter Beakel, Actor's Studio. NY Shakespeare Festival production of Romeo and Juliet to give benefit performance Dec 16 at Great Neck, NY High School.

Winter Repertory

Walter Abel stars in Death of a Salesman Nov 8-27 at Fred Miller Theatre, Milwaukee.. Monique Von Vooren was presented with a local cast in Kismet by Renaissance Productions at Pabst Theatre, Milwaukee...Royal Poinciana, Fla, Playhouse cast of The Fantasticks headed by Gene Rupert and Carla Huston playing this week at NY Sullivan St Playhouse, allowing original cast vacation.

The Potting Shed to open season in Jan of Theatre 90, Hollywood, presented by Dorothy and Teddy Hart... ...Shirley Booth in The Late Christopher Brown opens season at Coconut Grove, Miami, Playhouse, directed by Owen Phillips. Nov 15.

New Plays

William Inge's new play Natural Affection will be tried out this season at Coconut Grove, Miami, Playhouse with Shelley Winters and Ben Gazzara, staged by Frank Corsaro. Florida winter playhouse also plans tried outs of the following new plays-- Of Love and Death by A. E. Hotchner an adaptation of Hemingway stories and Trouble in the Flesh Ketti Frings' adaptation of Max Wylie's novel.

Road Shows

The Sound of Music national company will start 15 month touch in Detroit in Feb starring Florence Henderson.

La Plume de ma Tante NY cast may open run at Christmas at Riveria Hotel, Las Vegas prior to a national tour, and might return following tour to a NY run at lowered prices.

London

The Miracle Worker to be presented in Ja by Donald Albery.. Retirement rumors denied by Albert Lunt and Lynn Fontanne following closing of The Visit.

Europe

Curtmantle, Christopher Fry's new play on Henry II, to debut in Holland in spring prior to London production...Leif Erickson to join ANTA-Guild repertory tour of Europe and Latin America due to open Mar 6 in Madrid ... West Side Story NY cast may tour Europe starting in Jan in Tel Aviv.

Australia

Irma La Douce tour opens Jan 28 in Sydney.

Calendar- Tryouts -Openings

All the Way Home- Shubert- New Haven- 11/10

Critic's Choice- Playhouse- Wilmington 11/9

Do Re Mi- Shubert- Philadelphia 11/7

Love & Libel- Cass, Detroit 11/7

Send Me No Flowers- Ford's Baltimore 11/9

Calendar- Current Tours

Advise & Consent- Walnut Philadelphia- 11/1

At Drop of Hat- Shubert- Cincinatti 11/7

Camelot- Shubert- Boston- 10/28

Destry Rides Again- Curran- San Francisco 11/7

Fiorello- Shubert, Chicago 9/6

Five Finger Exercise- Colonial, Boston 10/24

Flower Drum Song- American St Louis- 10/31

Little Moon of Alban- Forrest Philadelphia 10/28

Majority of One- Erlanger Chicago 9/26

The Music Man- Auditorium Dayton 11/7

My Fair Lady- O Keefe, Toronto 10/31

Raisin in the Sun- Hanna Cleveland 10/31

Three Penny Opera- Music Box, Los Angeles-

FAMOUS FIRST NIGHTS

Lady in the Dark- Alvin- 1/23/41 . 9 pros-unanimous - filed on new musical play by Moss Hart, lyrics by Ira Gershwin, music by Kurt Weill, presented by Sam Harris, directed by Hart with Gertrude Lawrence, Danny Kaye, Bert Lytell , MacDonald Carey, Victor Mature. Rave votes for Lawrence and spectacular production of Hassard Short, sets by Harry Horner and costumes by Irene Sharaff. Diverse views listed on quality of Hart's book, though all joined in praise of his ingenious staging.

With its opening postponed a week due to a grippe attack on Lawrence the musical play ran from Jan 23 to Jun 15 and then took an eleven week summer vacation. It re-opened in the fall with Lawrence and the following re - placements--Eric Brotherson for Danny Kaye, Paul McGrath for Bert Lytell, Walter Coy for MacDonald Carey, and Willard Parker for Victor Mature. Total run was 467 performances. With this latter company Lawrence went on an eight month tour and returned Feb 28, 1943 for a run of 83 performances at the Broadway at a $2.75 top. Original top price was $4.40.

Times- Brooks Atkinson- a work of art, Weill's finest score in years, brilliant lyrics, Lawrence a goddess, and cast excellent throughout. The American stage may as well take a bow for the play uses the resources of theatre magnificently and tells compassionately story triumphantly.

Herald Tribune-Richard Watts- proves Lawrence the greatest feminine performer in theatre, has the opportunity to do some of the most emotional gamut-running in modern stage history. A shrewd and lavish show which as a feat of showmanship is unquestionably brilliant. Kaye's contribution most remarkable, makes his character both bearable and funny.

News- Burns Mantle- combination of dreams come true that makes it an unusual spectacle with more show than substance. Big, impressive and generally satisfying. But many will wait till Lawrence returns to her normal and un-psyched self.

Mirror- Robert Coleman- one of most lavish and spectacular musical plays of season, sometimes so big it gets in own way and has to summon its magnetic star to get it untracked again. Gem of production that takes terrific, buoyant enchanting star to light up.

Sun- Richard Lockridge- so much bright in it and so much Lawrence that it is perhaps unimportant that play and production do not really jell. About psychosis of heroine author tells either too much or too little.

World Telegram-Sidney Whipple- most lavish and beautiful entertainment to reach Broadway in seasons with Lawrence reaching new heights of artistry. Story becomes repetitious and dull , takes interminable time .

Post- John Mason Brown- Little short of miraculous as an example of stagecraft as its most breath-taking and as an invitation to performance by Lawrence which is incredible in its virtuosity. Will be even better when its true character is recognized, its dialogue vigorously pruned.

PM- Louis Kronenberger- product is slight, but packaging superb. Play superficial, somewhat clumsily written. But Lady's dreams set lightly to music and blown up into a gorgeous spectacle with Lawrence becomes very good theatre.

LATE NYC NEWS & REVIEWS

LATE NYC NEWS: Plans to tour NY Shakespeare Festival production of Romeo and Juliet in NYC high schools starting in Jan held up by Board of Estimates decision to put off action of approving the $50,000 grant until Dec 1 . Three members Controller Lawrence Gerosa, Bronx Borough President James J Lyons and Queens Borough President John T Clancy stated they opposed project because NY Shakespeare Festival producer Joe Papp invoked the Fifth Amendment before a Congressional committee. Project lacked sufficient votes for approval at the 22 vote group because a three quarters majority for passage is required on items appearing for the first time. At the Dec 1 only a simple majority is required... Unsinkable Molly Brown reports a $1 million advance sale... Beautiful Dreamer will be presented Dec 27 at Madison Ave Playhouse by Wicland Company, Joe Moon producer, Ernestine Perrie to direct musical based on Stephen Foster featuring James Morris. Author Coleman Dowell reports he has withdrawn in a dispute with the producer and requested his name be removed from the credits... Back of the Slay is new title of Howard Teichmann's dramatization of "Over at Uncle Joe's" by Mrs. Brooks Atkinson, to be presented in Feb by Roger Stevens - John Shubert.. Robert Morse may star in How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying musical version of Sheperd Mead novel by Frank Loesser- Abe Burrows to be presented by Frank Productions-Feuer & Martin in May.

The Unsinkable Molly Brown- Winter Garden 11/3. 5 pros- all raves for Tammy Grimes- and 2 cons-News, Mirror- filed on new musical with book by Richard Morris, music and lyrics by Meredith Willson, presented byTheatre Guild-Dore Schary, staged by Schary with Grimes, Harve Presnell, Cameron Prud'homme , Edith Meiser. Unqualified raves for Grimes recorded by all, though majority of affirmative found fault with book and some with staging. Negative voters differed on reason for veto, one noting book not as unsinkable as star, other panning conception of leading character. Affirmative side headed by Taubman, Times, who applauded Grimes as a buoyant interpreter allowing production to ride out the evening in a moderate measure of entertainment. Though Willson has some ingratiating songs and the staging shows sense of movement, Times man suggested book has not been developed and remains a scenerio for a musical comedy book. Kerr, Herald Tribune, lauded Grimes as a genius and a bit of a spook, the kind of musical comedy heroine who might have been imagined by Edgar Allen Poe. He also added that direction at times seems in as much trouble as the Titanic, but show which is unmistakably on the sloppy side has much fun to spash about in. Watts, Post, enjoyed Willson score, the colorful production, some lively dances and the performances of Grimes and Presnell, though he admitted book is an unsatisfactory interruption of the score. McClain, Journal American, liked brash score in best Willson tradition in an indigenous American musical comedy that results in a magnificent vehicle for Grimes. Aston, World Telegram & Sun, approved of show in which star carries the whole show, and which is delectable at start, middle and finish. Negative view of Chapman, News, is that inspite of star it is not as consistently ebullient as she is, offers lapses of momentum, and pace is slow perhaps because the director was not tough enough. Coleman, Mirror, panned conception of major character as a boorish egomanic. Though show has a pleasant score and is glittering and bouncy, critic resented the heartless steamroller tactics of "Molly". Coleman did report that first night audience cheered and seemed to be having the time of their lives.